



# Lake Carriers' Association

## For Immediate Release

November 11, 2009

### Great Lakes Limestone Trade Falls Into Fall

Cleveland-The first full month of fall was another disappointment for Lakes-shipping limestone quarries in the U.S. and Canada. Loadings in October totaled 3.3 million net tons, a decrease of 20.4 percent compared to both a year ago and the month's 5-year average.

The October stone float mirrors previous months. The sluggish construction market has sapped demand for aggregate, while sagging steel production has trimmed shipments of fluxstone.

For the year, the limestone trade stands at 19.7 million tons, a decrease of 30.7 percent compared to a year ago. Shipments are 36.2 percent below the 5-year average for the January-October timeframe.

**GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: OCTOBER 2004-2009 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE**  
(net tons)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Average 2004-2008
U.S. Ports	3,797,009	3,437,981	3,368,513	3,060,631	3,299,547	2,653,204	3,392,736
Canadian Ports	906,608	851,909	723,419	557,300	854,773	656,150	778,801
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,703,617</b>	<b>4,289,890</b>	<b>4,091,932</b>	<b>3,617,931</b>	<b>4,156,328</b>	<b>3,309,354</b>	<b>4,171,537</b>

**GREAT LAKES LIMESTONE TRADE: YEAR-TO-DATE 2004-2009 AND 5-YEAR AVERAGE**  
(net tons)

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Average 2004-2008
U.S. Ports	26,917,959	25,712,305	25,090,571	23,201,622	22,416,354	15,318,424	24,667,762
Canadian Ports	6,971,965	6,437,765	6,440,183	5,018,175	5,950,377	4,342,730	6,163,693
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,891,928</b>	<b>32,152,075</b>	<b>31,532,760</b>	<b>28,221,804</b>	<b>28,368,739</b>	<b>19,663,163</b>	<b>30,831,455</b>

U.S. ports: Calcite, MI, Cedarville, MI, Drummond Island, MI, Kellys Island, OH, Marblehead, OH, Port Inland, MI and Presque Isle, MI. Kellys Island currently not shipping. Canadian ports: Bruce Mines, Manitoulin Island, Port Colborne, and Smelter Bay (all Ontario). Port Colborne ceased shipping by vessel in 2006 and Kellys Island has not shipped this year.

Lake Carriers' Association represents 18 American companies that operate 55 U.S.-Flag vessels on the Great Lakes and carry the raw materials that drive the nation's economy, including iron ore and fluxstone for the steel industry, limestone and cement for the construction industry, and coal for power generation. Collectively, these vessels can transport more than 115 million tons of cargo a year when high water offsets lack of adequate dredging. More information is available at [www.lcaships.com](http://www.lcaships.com). Contact: Glen G. Nekvasil, Vice President - Corporate Communications. Telephone: (216) 861-0592.

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Report based on reliable data sources. However, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. LCA assumes no legal responsibility for the outcome of decisions or commitments made on the basis of this information. This report represents the views of LCA and may not necessarily represent the views of its individual members.

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***The Association Representing Operators of U.S.-Flag Vessels on the Great Lakes***

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